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ELECTION TECHNOLOGY UPGRADE AND REPLACEMENT PRIORITIES

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TECHNOLOGY UPGRADES AND REPLACEMENTS ARE A CRITICAL PRIORITY: The Clark County Election Department is actively seeking funding for replacement of our aging voting system and implementation of electronic poll books at Election Day polling places. One of our highest priorities is educating stakeholders, such as the general public, community groups, legislators, and state officials, about the importance of allocating necessary resources for these better, modern technologies.

Many election experts support replacement of aging voting equipment and implementation of electronic poll books. These experts include:

- Presidential Commission on Election Administration
- Election Assistance Commission (EAC)
- United States EAC Standards Board
- Brennan Center for Justice
- National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL)

VOTING SYSTEM REPLACEMENT CANNOT WAIT: Our current voting system is extremely reliable and accurate, but is becoming increasingly obsolete. Replacing worn-out parts now requires cannibalization of working equipment because these parts are no longer manufactured. Over time, we will have fewer and fewer parts for the increasing number of failing, aging parts.

Acquiring a new voting system is critical. A new system will have the many of the advantages of the current system, plus significant modern technology improvements, such as:

- Extreme reliability and accuracy
- High suitability for efficient early voting and Election Day voting
- Voter-friendly Direct Recording Electronic (DRE), touch-screen voting machines
- Outstanding flexibility because it uses "commercial off the shelf" (COTS) equipment that is standardized and modern, so, on a long-term basis, it can be readily upgraded, easily incorporate future technology, and provide for easy availability of parts.

MODERN ELECTRONIC POLL BOOKS ARE BETTER: Electronic poll books will be a huge advancement for highly efficient and effective voter processing. Their many advantages include:

- Proven technology already used for early voting
- Real-time connection to our voter database
- Enhancement of the integrity of the voting process
- Elimination of paper rosters
- Modern administrative tools for managing elections and processing voters
- Advanced tools for implementing new voter services in the future

TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE: It is critical that we plan now for future improvements that cannot wait. Parts are now obsolete. Worn-out parts will lead to increasing equipment failure rates, which in turn could affect the integrity of the voting process and loss of voter confidence in it. A critical large-scale equipment failure, forcing a wholesale replacement in a short timeframe must be avoided. Systematically and gradually phasing-in new equipment and technologies is the best and most practical road to take. We must start on that road now.